



# NEWSLETTER

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Week 3 – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup>

## LEADERS' NEWS



### Student Involvement

**Leadership, access to authentic decision making and community responsibility** are important aspects of students' experiences at EPS. There are many activities and expectations throughout the primary years than skill students to take their place as leaders, decision makers and 'doers' in their senior year. These skills are an important part of future life experiences because they build students' capacity to be solid, caring and active citizens.

Teachers endeavour to provide rich experiences for students in the senior years to foster these skills. ECA Teams is one such endeavour and we have seen students adopting community and environmental responsibilities through these groups. Some of their actions were developing the butterfly garden, establishing the Aboriginal Bush Tucker gardens, managing the Veggie patch, coordinating the Yearbook publication, writing the Ed's Editorial newsletter, managing waste effectively, working with the local preschool, and visiting the retirement village.

An important part of decision making is the Student Leaders group. They coordinate the Year 3 to 7 SRC meetings and undertake the leadership roles in these meetings. They discuss decisions with principals and clarify processes to help these decisions become reality. Student Leaders speak at assemblies, escort and communicate with guests, plan and organise special projects, report on the financial funds of the team and coordinate with the Finance Officer when fundraising occurs. We often use these students as a consultation group for issues such as the playground development. These students are role models for their peers and younger students, so we expect that they conduct themselves according to school values.

Year 7 students were invited to apply for the Student Leaders' positions through written application and a presentation to the Year 6 & 7 classes. There were 11 applicants who were dedicated enough to write the job specifications and present this information to an audience. Whilst it was a smaller number than 2015, it represents more than a third of our Year 7 students.

Principals and teachers listened to these presentations and were pleased with the calibre of applicants. Students showed real bravery in presenting to the group and staff were surprised at how articulate and well prepared these students were. Several students started this preparation during the holidays!

Unfortunately there are only 8 Student Leaders positions and we had great difficulty separating out 8 students. Applicants who were not selected have many other opportunities for leadership and we encourage them to be involved in action teams and community services throughout the year.

We are very excited about our new Student Leaders and have great expectations and hopes for this group. Our Student Leaders will be trained next month with leaders from other schools. This will provide them with additional skills and knowledge of decision making processes and collaboration. The leaders will come back with plans and ideas that can move our school forward.

**Student Leaders will be announced at this week's assembly.**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### FEB

19 Fri Whole school Assembly – 2.15pm UP Hosting  
25 Thurs 5:30pm - Finance Meeting  
29 Mon 7pm - **Annual General Meeting**  
29 – 2 Rms 4, 15 & 16 to Arbury Camp (Yrs 3-5)  
2 – 4 Rms 5, 6 & 7 to Arbury Camp (Yrs 3-4)

### MAR

2 Wed 9.15am - Principal's Tour  
4 Fri SAPSASA Swimming  
14 Mon **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**  
16-18 Year 6-7 camp (Rms 13 & 14)  
24 Thur **SPORTS DAY**  
25 Fri **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**  
28 Mon **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**  
29 Tues **PUPIL FREE DAY**

**CHECK OUT OUR SCHOOL APP INFO**  
**STRAWBERRY FAIR – SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>**

## Parental Involvement

It was fabulous to see the turnout of parents at the **Acquaintance Night** last week. Several of the teaching teams presented their approaches to teaching and learning; talking about issues such as 'growth mindsets', the importance of challenge and persistence in the learning process, the use of Inquiry or Product Based learning, the impacts of technology on the 2016 classroom etc. Our specialist teachers also talked about specific topics such as SAPSASA Sports opportunities, the exciting Musical production for 2016 and the reasons for teaching French language and its accessibility in everyday conversations.

One of the overriding themes of the evening from Reception to Year 7 was the fact that **learning is hard because if it isn't, then children really aren't learning**; they are regurgitating information they already know. Challenging learning makes us feel very uncomfortable but it is providing the stretch our brains need to develop connections. These connections are physiological connections (called synapses) in the structure of the brain and can be seen at the microscopic level. These synapses will not develop fully unless we stretch children's thinking.

The reason we hold Acquaintance Evenings is to give you an outline of the most current understanding of learning and the best pedagogies to promote this. It has been some time since you attended school yourself and brain development research, technologies, societal changes, community expectations and children themselves have all changed dramatically over this time. **We want to build your understanding of education so they we can work as partners for the ongoing education of your child.** Research shows quite clearly that the closer the connection between home and school expectations, the better the outcomes for children.

This year we have renewed our commitment to close **communication with parents** via electronic communications. You would have all received at least one email from your child's teacher. This is a two way communication so please feel that you can contact your child's teacher through email or by phone if you have any queries or concerns. Our website is currently being redeveloped with the aim of clarity and ease of use, and there will be opportunities to post class blogs on this site. Make sure you have our school app because this will alert you to newsletters and school events.

Other ways to keep in the loop is by **being part of the decision making structures in the school**, such as Committees and School Council. These committees often discuss educational issues and parents gain a greater insight into the educational offerings we provide and directions the school is taking.

**Suzanne and Kathy**

## WOW! WHAT A RESPONSE FOR GUITAR AND KEYBOARD LESSONS

We have such a huge response to Ruth's guitar and keyboard tutoring that we have filled not only Friday, but Monday as well.

Unfortunately, that means that there are no more spaces for students to begin these instruments this term. If you call Ruth she will inform you that you are on a waiting list for term 2.

### STRING INSTRUMENT LESSONS

Violin lessons have begun but there are about 5 spaces left for Yr 3 or 4 students to begin to learn this orchestral instrument for free (the only cost being the hire of an instrument and your music book. Please contact Joy Groves immediately if you would like to take up this offer.

## Cashier's Office

The Cashier is open at the Book Room at 8.35am each morning. If you are unable to make it when it is open you are welcome to pop your payments in the **Blue Payment Box** next to the payment window. Payment will be processed and receipts will be sent home via the classroom. This will save you from a long line up.

### CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email address: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN TO THE FRONT OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

OUR SCHOOL WEB ADDRESS IS: [www.edwardps.sa.edu.au](http://www.edwardps.sa.edu.au) Our school newsletters are always available on this website

### PARENT FEEDBACK

#### **I WANT TO KNOW....**

Your views are important to us! Please send an email to [Suzanne.Clark516@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Suzanne.Clark516@schools.sa.edu.au) to ensure that we understand your views.

## FRANCO-FILE

Awe Man .. you got an ipad?!



A few people have asked about apps to help practise French at home. There are many apps to help with learning languages. Here are a couple that would suit most classes at EPS. We will be looking at these apps in class.

**Gus on the Go** – a fun and varied vocabulary builder.

**Jeux pour lire avec Sami et Julie** – excellent to help with the French Phonics we are doing in class. Learn to sound out words, read and spell with varied activities and choices.

**Duolingo** – for the older students. A free app designed to teach how to read, write, listen, and speak in French. Work your way up through the lessons. May take a little getting used to, but worth persisting.

You can also find on You Tube many little songs, clips and episodes from French TV shows such as T'choupi that we sometimes watch in class. These can help with vocab practice as well as fostering an enjoyment of French. Please feel free to see me in the French room to discuss these and other options.

*Merci, Madame Lyn Empen*

### Exciting Way to Connect – Skoolbag App

**DON'T MISS OUT ON SOMETHING.....SIMPLE AND GREAT WAY TO BE IN TOUCH.....please read on.**

The Skoolbag App is able to give you instant notifications and is an easy means of accessing our regular newsletters. The Smartphones App, for both Android, iPhones and now Windows 8.1 and Windows 10 see below. The app is able to push out urgent messages and reminders and connect with our website and newsletter.

The App can be downloaded from the App store (iphones) Google store (android) and Windows store (Win8.1 phones) App store and Google store are listed under the school name. See note below about Windows phones. This App is free to parents, the school pays to set up and maintain the App.

When installing, please make sure you **allow push notifications** because this enables us to get messages to you in the fastest way possible.

Should you have difficulties accessing the App please talk with our Front Office staff.

**NEW Skoolbag is now available for Windows 8.1 phones** or Windows 10 tablets/laptop. Look up Skoolbag in the Windows store and install it. Once installed you can find the school Edwardstown Primary, then pin it to your home screen

### SCHOOL FEES 2016

The Material & Services fee, agreed and approved for 2016, is \$360 per student for the year. The invoice for school fees will be sent home via students during the next 2 weeks. We ask that payment be made at your earliest convenience but certainly before the end of this term (April 16th). If you wish to negotiate an alternative payment plan please make a time to meet with the Finance Officer, **Glenys de Wit** or **Jen Goodman**

The results of the parent poll, late last year, was a conclusive YES. There were 43 votes for and 12 votes against. This now means that the full amount of \$360 is legally recoverable.

The excursion levy for 2016 remains at \$60 and will also be Invoiced along with school fees.

#### **School Card**

Do you think you may qualify?

Please pop into the front office and pick up an application form.

**PAYMENT OF ALL SCHOOL INVOICES CAN BE PAID VIA OUR WEBSITE. BIZGATE is available to pay school monies as well as OSHC/VAC CARE. Our web site is... <http://www.edwardps.sa.edu.au> See Glenys if you have problems using this system.**

### WALKING SCHOOL BUS

If anyone would like to join any of our Walking School Bus routes please pop in to the Front Office and we can let you know what you need to do. Thank you, have fun walking to school!



## STUDENT BANKING

EVERY THURSDAY- Commonwealth Bank



### Teach your Child the Value of Saving!

Open a new Little Savers Incentive Saver Account for your child before 29th April 2016 and they'll receive:

- A \$10 credit to help them kick start their savings\* + \$10 will also be donated to the school!
- A Little Savers Welcome Pack, including a moneybox, calculator, banking wallet and library bag.



Tania and Veronica from BankSA at Edwardstown (Castle Plaza) will be visiting the school to answer any questions, collect registrations and open new accounts near the Reception Classrooms on

**Tuesday 1st March from 8:30am-10:30am.**

Should you be interested, please bring your child's Birth Certificate & Medicare Card on the day., registration forms are available from the front office if you'd like to fill them in before this day.

School banking pick up will be available (numbers permitting) , please register your interest with Veronica or Tania.

If you can't make it, Tania and Veronica are at BankSA Edwardstown 5 days per week and are happy for you to make a time with them by calling 8374 2286.

For more information and full terms and conditions please go to [www.littlesavers.com.au](http://www.littlesavers.com.au)

## SPORT NEWS

### BASKETBALL

Teams have been sorted and the games have started this week. The draw is available on <http://www.foxsportspulse.com/assoc> and may change from week to week so please be aware of this. Can coaches or interested parents please pass on results to us in the front office for publication and we are always loving to have photos in our newsletter. I do need a team photo too please and then always enjoy putting fun shots in the newsletter. Thanks.

### CRICKET GAMES for Friday night 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Loading

Cc:  
Bcc:

#### **B Grade**

Sat 20 Feb(8:30 AM) Edwardstown v Flagstaff Hill Edwardstown PS

#### **C Grade**

Fri 19 Feb (5:00PM) St John the Baptist v Edwardstown Blue Plympton Park Reserve Cnr South Tce & Park Tce, Plympton Park

Fri 19 Feb (5:00PM) Edwardstown Gold vs Goodwood White Edwardstown PS

#### **Year 2 Kanga**

Fri 19 Feb(5:00 PM) St John the Baptist Black v Edwardstown Glandore Oval 1

#### **Year 3 Kanga**

Fri 19 Feb(6:00 PM) Edwardstown v Clapham Glandore Oval 1

## MORE SPORT NEWS....

**VOLLEYBALL NEWS** – Volleyball also starts this Friday night 19<sup>th</sup> February.

### Game Times

Edwardstown 1 - Titanium - 4pm Court 1  
 Edwardstown 2 - Sapphire - 430pm Court 1 and 5.00pm (2 games)  
 Edwardstown 3 - Gold - 4pm Court 2  
 Edwardstown 4 - Turquoise (4/5 team) 5pm Court 3

All players will be required to become a "Spikezone" member of Volleyball SA.  
 See you at training! Remember: 4/5 's finish at 3.50, 6/7's at 4.20.  
 Kind Regards, **Karola & Dominic Laventure** Mob: 0409 114 043 (Karola)

## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

In 2016 our Uniform Shop will be open on **Tuesdays** (not Wednesdays) and **Friday mornings**.  
 If you aren't free those mornings, please feel free to pop in and grab an order form. It will be processed and left at the Front Office for collection anytime during school office hours.

## Please Check **LOST PROPERTY** for unclaimed clothing and hats



### WOW, HOW GREAT.....

Have you seen our beautiful new mural in the Resource Centre?

Thanks to Hanli and her girls, Liche' and Nikki for painting it during the school holidays. Pop in and have a look

## SPORTS DAY T SHIRTS

<b>Dolphins - Blue</b>	<b>Koalas - Green</b>
<b>Kangaroos - Red</b>	<b>Eagles - Yellow</b>

Our Sports Day will be held on **Thursday, March 24th**. We will be selling t-shirts in team colours again this year because they are cheap, good quality and sometimes plain t-shirts are hard to find. Child sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 are \$5.00 and Adult sizes Small, Medium, Large are \$7.50. So that we don't accumulate excess stock, we will be purchasing these shirts on **ORDER ONLY**. There are samples in the front office if you would like to see what they are like.

Check with class teachers if you are unsure of your child's team.

Please fill in the form below if you would like to buy a shirt for your child and return the slip to the Front Office by Friday, March 11th. There will be **NO SPARES** so please order so you don't miss out. **Please pay when order.**

### **Team Colour T-Shirt Order Form**

Name:			Room :	
Team Colour	Quantity	Size Child – 4-16Y (\$5.00)	Size Adult S-3XL (\$7.50)	Total
Total amount paid -				

## FUNDRAISING NEWS....

A lot happens at EPS and fundraising is a way for us to raise extra funds for continued improvements to the school facilities and grounds.

We are looking for people to help out at various times throughout the year with fundraising events. Any time that you can offer in helping to prepare for events or on the day is greatly appreciated - as many hands make light work! If you are interested in helping out and getting to know other EPS parents please see Judy in the front office. Our fundraising team would love to meet some new faces! (Some examples of fun events that you can get involved in are Kyttons Hot Cross Buns, Quiz Night, Mothers & Fathers day shop, making raffle books, wrapping prizes, etc.)

HOT CROSS BUNS

### Kyttons Hot Cross Buns and Lamingtons Fundraiser

**Advance notice**.....Order forms for our annual Kyttons Fundraiser Event will be sent home in the coming weeks. Please hand them around to friends, family and work colleagues and help us to raise funds for continuing improvements to **Edwardstown Primary School**. If you would like additional forms, please talk to Judy in the front office.

**Order forms and money, are due to be returned to the bookroom no later than TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH.**



*Thank you for your support, the fundraising team!*

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS** – Will be on sale again from the school in Term 2. This is another great fundraiser for the school and families are welcome to ask families and friends if they would like to purchase a book through us. If families do not want a book a note will go home offering families to opt out later.

**BUSINESS DIRECTORY** – Remember this from last year...well we will be doing this again soon. Stay tuned and if you own or know someone with a business, enter in our Directory, what a great way to advertise your business. Also great for us a school to use a business that we can trust.

### So what do we need to know about now.....

#### **EASTER RAFFLE**

Everyone loves a Easter Raffle, and this year we are going to do it again.



With Easter fast approaching we would appreciate your help in two ways with our fundraiser.

We are asking for donations from each family to contribute to our Easter Raffle prize baskets. Please place your donation of small chocolate eggs, bunnies, bilbies, soft toys etc in the box provided in the front foyer or in the box outside of your child's classroom. The donations will be made into beautiful Easter baskets, resulting in several prizes.

Each family will be issued with a book of 10 raffle tickets to sell for \$1.00 each.

The raffle will be drawn at Sports Day on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

Please support our school and thank you.  
**Fundraising Committee**

## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

**ADRA cafe @ Maria St, Melrose Park**

**Invites you to**

**P.N.O (Parents Night Off)**

**\$4 Buffet Dinner**

**4pm - 6.30pm**

**Please call Kari 0404 653 062 for bookings.**

### DENTAL CARE

**FREE** for most school-aged children and **ALL** preschool children at the School Dental Service. School Dental Service clinics are open during the Christmas school holiday break. Phone your local School Dental Service clinic now for an appointment. For clinic details visit [www.sadental.sa.gov.au](http://www.sadental.sa.gov.au).

